

Transcript of recorded interview by  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Detectives  
Comstock and Davis with Tony Sims  
(October 27, 2005)

SER 203 - 213

TAPE RECORDED INTERVIEW OF TONY SIMS CONDUCTED BY  
DETECTIVES COMSTOCK AND DAVIS OF THE LOS ANGELES  
COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, HOMICIDE BUREAU, AT  
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE.

CASE NAME: People vs. Stanley Williams  
CHARGE: PC187(a)  
C.D. DATE: October 27, 2005  
C.D. I.D.: "Alfred Coward/Tony Sims"  
DEPUTY D.A.: John Monaghan  
D.A. UNIT: Major Crimes

LEGEND:

D – Det. Steve Davis  
C – Det. Cheryl Comstock  
S – Tony Sims  
U – Unidentified  
\*\*\* Unintelligible

TRANSCRIPT PROVIDED BY

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

November 2005

sam/05-70

1 C Hi. Mr. Sims?

2 S Yes, mam.\*\*\*

3 C I'm fine. Excuse me. \*\*\*. I'm Detective Cheryl Comstock.

4 I'm with the L.A. County Sheriff's Department. I'm a Homicide detective.

5 And, my partner, who \*\*\*

6 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)

7 C -- Steve Davis will be back. We just want to talk to you for a  
8 couple of minutes.

9 S All right.

10 C Uhm, sit down.

11 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)

12 C Did we take you away from anything special going on? Or --

13 S Uh, it's kind of hectic right now.

14 C Yeah?

15 S Uh-huh.

16 C Excuse me just give me a sec. I'm gonna talk to my partner  
17 for a minute. \*\*\*. Why is it hectic?

18 S Uh, there's a situation going on, uh, you know. \*\*\*.

19 D Oh, okay. Are you, uhm -- you're Mr. Sims, correct?

20 S Yes.

21 D I didn't get to meet you. My name is Detective Davis.

22 S How you doing?

23 C Well, what we're here to talk to you about is --

24 S Mmnh-mmnh.

25 C -- Tookie Williams. You probably figured that out already.

26 S Mmnh-mmnh.

27 C Uhm, the bottom line is, is that we were just asked to come  
28 up here and just discuss a couple of issues with you about your prior

1 statements that you've made. And, uhm, we've read through a lot of the  
2 old transcripts --

3 S Yeah.

4 C -- when you were in court before, and, the statements that  
5 you made. And, uh, we just want to see if those are -- those statements  
6 that you talked about, I mean, from what we read, you pretty much  
7 admitted to what happened in that 7-Eleven situation. You admitted to  
8 the case. You were very straightforward with your parole hearings, with  
9 everything you've told them.

10 S Mmnh-mmnh.

11 C And, uhm -- and, the fact that you are remorseful about what  
12 happened. You're sorry about what happened to Mr. Owens. And, uhm,  
13 you, basically, explained the scenario of how you got involved in it. Uhm,  
14 and, I'm assuming that's still all accurate information?

15 S Uhm, yes. What is on, was on record, is on record.

16 C Right.

17 S Yeah.

18 C So, -- so, what is on record, as far as what happened at the  
19 7-Eleven that day is -- is the truth, right?

20 S Yes, if it's on record, yeah.

21 C Uhm, and, now -- and, when we read through all the  
22 transcripts, there was an individual, uh, Darnel or Darryl -- Darnel?

23 S I did not know him.

24 C You did not know Darnel?

25 S Uhn-uhn.

26 C Because I know that's what you initially had said. Is that still  
27 your position?

28 S Yes.

1 C Okay. And, uh, on a little slightly different note, uhm, has  
2 anybody from the defense for Tookie Williams, have they come in to see  
3 you?

4 S Yes.

5 C Yes?

6 S Mmnh-mmnh.

7 C I'm sorry. It's hard to hear with that noise out there.

8 S Yes, ma'am.

9 C And, who was that?

10 S Uh, I can't recall the name.

11 C Was it a woman? Or a man?

12 S Uh, a woman.

13 C Okay. And, if -- if I might ask, what -- Mr. Sims, what did they  
14 want?

15 S Uhm, the same thing you asked me for. Do I stand by what I  
16 said in the past?

17 C And, what -- if I may ask, what did you tell them?

18 S Uhm, nothing. I mean, like I say, the records -- whatever is  
19 on the record is on the record.

20 C So, what -- is that, basically, then, they -- did they want you to  
21 come to -- you know, there's -- are you aware of what's happening and  
22 that he's fighting his execution and potential clemency hearing?

23 S (No audible response.)

24 C Are you aware of that?

25 S Mmnh-mmnh.

26 C Yes?

27 S Yes, I am.

28 C Uhm, did they want you to come to that hearing and testify in

1 his behalf?

2 S No, ma'am. Not that I know of.

3 C No?

4 S (No audible response.)

5 C What was the point of them seeing you, then? Do -- could  
6 you figure it out?

7 S Uhm, I haven't figured it out myself. I guess, uhm, -- uh, I  
8 guess just -- just to see if, uh, everything was as it was on the record.

9 C So, did you think they were looking for you maybe to change  
10 something, to perhaps say I'll -- I'll say something different now?

11 S I have no idea. I -- I don't know.

12 C Okay. And, so, basically, what --

13 S It was never -- it was never, uh, presented to me that way.

14 C No?

15 S (No audible response.)

16 C So, they -- they didn't come in and say, "Hey, will you -- will  
17 you say this --

18 S No.

19 C -- this and this to help Mr. Williams?" No, they didn't?

20 S (No audible response.)

21 C Okay. So, your statement that you have given, from the very  
22 beginning, to not only the, uh, -- not the deputy -- Detective Wilson,  
23 originally, when you were first -- you gave your confession or admissions,  
24 and, then, all the ones in your court proceedings, and, the ones you've  
25 given to the parole board, uhm, they're all very consistent, from what I've  
26 read. And, it -- it's -- it's clear, to me, that what you've said is the truth.  
27 And, I'm assuming you're still maintaining everything you've said is the  
28 truth?

1 S Like I said, if it's in the record, that's – that's what it is.

2 C All right. And, I understand what you're saying. And, I think  
3 what I'm asking is – I'm assuming that the record reflects the truth.

4 S Do I have to talk about this?

5 C No. No, you don't. And, I just –

6 S Well, I don't – I mean I don't – I don't really feel comfortable  
7 with the whole setting, really.

8 C Yeah. Yeah, and I'm not – I'm not suggesting that anything  
9 you said wasn't the truth.

10 S Mmnh-mmnh.

11 C And, again, it's – it's pretty clear, from our impression, that it  
12 is accurately – it's what happened, because it's the same every time you  
13 recite it. And, we all know, when you're telling a lie, you can't remember  
14 your lies. So, it's not gonna come out the same every time.

15 S Mmnh-mmnh.

16 C So, it's pretty obvious to us, that you are an honest man and  
17 you – you admitted to what happened. Steve?

18 D Is it your position that Mr. Williams was the person that did  
19 the shooting during that incident?

20 S I don't – you know, again, I don't really feel comfortable about  
21 talking about this. So, I mean – you know, I don't want – I don't even  
22 want to continue this \*\*\*. Plus, like I said, what's in the record is already  
23 in the record.

24 D Okay. And, you – and, you stand by that, though, correct?

25 S I don't – I don't want to talk about this.

26 D Okay.

27 C What is your hesitancy? Do you think it can, in some way,  
28 jeopardize you?

1 S Uhm, that's part of the reason.

2 C Are you -- are you concerned for -- and, I quite frankly  
3 understand you're hopeful to get out one day. And, so, are you -- are you  
4 wanting to make sure that you don't do or say anything that could  
5 jeopardize you being released in the future?

6 S Uh, no. That's -- that's -- that's not it. I just -- I'm not feeling  
7 comfortable with this -- with this whole setting, as -- as I said. I mean,  
8 because what's gonna happen to Tookie is gonna happen to him. Either  
9 it's gonna happen for me or it's not gonna happen to me.

10 C Right.

11 S I already made peace with that. So, you know, that's -- that's  
12 not it. But, the thing is, I just don't feel comfortable about talking about  
13 this, because, like I said, what's in the record is in the record. So, there  
14 is no real need for me to elaborate on it really.

15 C Are you concerned about your safety?

16 S No.

17 C No?

18 S (No audible response.)

19 C Just more concerned about you not being comfortable talking  
20 about it?

21 S (No audible response.)

22 C Do you have another parole date set?

23 S Uh, no, not -- not, uh, -- not in the sense.

24 C The last one was what, '02?

25 S No, the last one was, uh --

26 C Oh, no, in '04.

27 S No, July. July of this year.

28 C July of this year?



1 S Mmnh-mmnh.  
2 C Do you have another one for next year?  
3 S (No audible response.)  
4 C How often do they come up, anyway?  
5 S Uhm, fortunately, I've been, uh, receiving every year, once a  
6 year.  
7 C Is that a good thing?  
8 S Uh, well, it has its ups and downs. It could be good, could be  
9 bad.  
10 C It's probably emotionally, uh, a roller coaster.  
11 S Very, very emotional.  
12 C Yeah. So, it's almost better just like, okay, don't give me one  
13 for five years. And –  
14 S No, no. No, no.  
15 C Yeah. No, but, I'm saying every year you got this – you  
16 know, your hopes and then –  
17 S Well, I would prefer to have it every year, you know, because,  
18 uh, the – the chances are greater.  
19 C Something to look forward to and work for?  
20 S Yeah.  
21 C Are you in a training program here?  
22 S Uh, no, not – not at the moment. I have been. I've been in a  
23 few here. Uh, but, I've completed -- as far as the programs, uh, they're  
24 kind of lengthy right now.  
25 C So, it's hard to get into them?  
26 S Uhm, yeah. Uh, there's only a few. So, uh, you have to, uh –  
27 I think it's a two-year requirement for each program. But, you have a list.  
28 So, when I took them, uhm, I think, uh, four or five different trades.

1 C Well, that's good. And, have you completed, what, some  
2 college or –

3 S Uh, no. No college.

4 C High school?

5 S GED.

6 C That's what I got. It worked for me, you know. However you  
7 can do it. Now, do they have college classes available?

8 S Uhm, I think they do. I'm not for sure. I'm not for sure. I  
9 think they have it.

10 C Do you guys have access to the Internet? Can you guys –

11 S No.

12 C No?

13 S (No audible response.)

14 C I know they've got on-line college classes and stuff like that.  
15 All right. Uhm, well, what – what about – just one more question on the  
16 Tookie Williams thing. The defense, how long ago were they here?

17 S Uhm, last month.

18 C Last month?

19 S Yeah.

20 C And, then, uh, obviously, I'm – I'm assuming that, since  
21 you're not comfortable with us, you probably weren't real comfortable  
22 with them either?

23 S Yes. No, I was not comfortable.

24 C Have you talked to your attorney? Or –

25 S To my attorney?

26 C Yeah. Do you even have an attorney?

27 S I don't have an attorney.

28 C You don't have an attorney?

1 S (No audible response.)  
2 C I thought maybe you were talking to an attorney and he said,  
3 you know, just don't get involved in nothing.  
4 S Uhn-uhn. No, the decision was mine.  
5 C Did they ask you – the defense – if you would – if you would  
6 testify at his hearing, if there was a hearing?  
7 S No.  
8 C Would you, if you were requested to, by either side?  
9 S No.  
10 C No?  
11 S (No audible response.)  
12 C So, no matter if it was with us or them, you wouldn't?  
13 S No.  
14 C No?  
15 S (No audible response.)  
16 C I can't \*\*\*. But, I don't want to go back into this. Thank you?  
17 S Right.  
18 C All right.  
19 Can you think of anything else?  
20 D No, I can't. I can't think of anything else.  
21 C Any questions for us?  
22 S Uhm, no.  
23 C I mean, shoot, if you have one.  
24 S (No audible response.)  
25 C No? Well, we appreciate your time. And, uh, we were – like I  
26 said, we were directed to come up here and chat with you. So, you know  
27 how that goes? We got to do what we're told to.  
28 S (No audible response.)

1 C So, do we give this back or do we give this to him?

2 S Uh, sir, excuse me. Can I get my I.D. back?

3 U Okay.

4 C Well, if you don't have any questions, I appreciate your time.

5 S Okay. Thank you.

6 D Okay, Mr. Sims. Thank you.

7 C And, good luck in the --

8 S Mmnh-mmnh.

9 C -- uh, future parole hearings. And, take care of yourself.

10 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)

11 -oo0oo-

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Declaration of Tony Sims  
(January 29, 1994) filed as  
Exhibit 29 to the Petition for  
Writ of Habeas Corpus,  
California Supreme Court  
case number S039285

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DECLARATION OF TONY SIMS

I, Tony Sims declare as follows:

1. I was Stanley Williams' co-defendant in the robbery/murder that occurred at a 7-11 store in Whittier, CA on February 28, 1979.

2. Memories of that night are very disjointed for me and have been ever since it happened. There are blocks of time that are missing from my memory, while other portions of that night remain very clear. Along with the rest of my companions, I had been smoking PCP very heavily all through the night, and there are periods of time in which I completely blacked out and had to ask my companions how we <sup>T.S.</sup> arrived at the places we went to.

3. I had known Stanley (whom I call Tookie) for about eight years or so, and had <sup>not T.S.</sup> seen or known him to use drugs until about a two weeks before this incident. I had an inkling that something might be wrong with him about two weeks before that night, when I saw Tookie using drugs, I think it was cocaine. For as long as I'd known him, Tookie's body was his pride and joy -- he was a health nut. When I saw him getting high, I had to look twice. I was dumb-founded to see him smoke shern the night we were together with Alfred Coward, especially because Tookie smoked so much shern that night. His actions that night were way far afield from the Tookie that I knew. I knew something must really have been wrong with <sup>him "G" T.S.</sup> ~~him "G" T.S.~~ he

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was smoking sherman cigarettes like they were going out of style. During the four or so hours that we were together that night, we made three different stops to buy PCP, purchasing about 9 sticks between us. I smoked a total of about three, and remember that Tookie had about the same amount. My surprise at seeing him get high, got my attention. Sherm took total control over Tookie that night. He was acting bizarrely -- not like the proud, self-assured individual I had known for several years. *I was definitely T.S. afraid of him knowing his size and strength and the unpredictable effects of Sh*

4. Tookie and I first met when I was about thirteen or fourteen years old, and he was about fifteen or sixteen. We literally bumped into each other at a record hop. Although we were not close friends, we saw each other occasionally, and had friends in common. I was a year behind him at Washington High School. Before the record hop, an older friend of mine and I took some truinals. By the time I arrived at the party, I was so high that I was floating. While stumbling about the room, I bumped into Tookie and accidentally stepped on Tookie's shoes, a pair of "biscuits" that were in fashion at the time. My older friend said something to Tookie such as "you'll have to excuse him -- he's high". Tookie gave me a very disapproving look, shook his head and said something like, "You keep that up and you'll never amount to anything. Tookie was different. He did not have a reputation as a drinker and I never saw him drink. <sup>He</sup> never participated when others got high when I was around. He cared about his body too much.

T.S.S. Tookie was a neighborhood star because of his enormous physique. It was incredible. No one looked as good or as big as

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he did. He drew crowds wherever he went, and had the respect of a lot of people. He often came to the park wearing a pair of his trademark overalls with no shirt underneath. People gathered around him asking to rub oil on his body. He was "Big Took". Aside from his his incredible body size and way he carried himself, I'm not certain why people seemed so in awe of him, because he certainly did nothing to account for that.

T.S. 6. Tookie was one of the most fanatical people I knew. He worked out religiously it seemed -- everyday, several hours a day. Having a beautiful body was what Tookie was about. He wasn't into the "street life".

T.S. 76. Although Tookie and I were tried seperately, our trials occurred around the same time. In April, 1981, I had a one day court trial and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, which was later reduced on appeal to 25 years to life. During the two plus years I spent in the county jail, I suffered greatly from the after-effects of PCP use. I was PCP-dazed for about two years after my arrest. Much of the time I spent there is just a blank -- big chunks of time sometimes lasting months are missing from my memory. Often when someone makes reference to something that happened while I was in jail that I should remember, such as a visit from someone or a trip to court, I will have absolutely no recall. I am left with only a handful or so of memories from those two years in jail. One of my most vivid memories however, is of Tookie. Because we were housed in separate areas of the jail, I had almost no contact with him. On this particular occasion, Tookie and I.

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along with several other prisoners, were boarding a jail bus. Tookie was directly in front of me. Although in close proximity, he did not seem to recognize or notice me. As he approached the steps of the bus, he stopped abruptly and turned around in circles about five or six times. The deputy stepped back and let him complete his circles. It was very strange. On the bus, he just sat zombie-like, and stared straight ahead, not reacting to anything or anyone around him.

T.S. 8. The only reason I gave a statement to the police when I was arrested, was because Alfred Coward, one of our companions on the night of the February 27th, told me to turn myself in and tell the police everything, because Tookie had already told the police that I was responsible for what happened that night. (Alfred was granted immunity, and testified against Tookie and I). I later learned that there was no truth to ~~this statement~~ <sup>what Alfred told me and</sup> <sup>T.S. 8</sup> <sup>stated</sup>. Thinking that the police were trying to hold me responsible for all the events of the evening, I was very defensive when I made my statement. The police told me that Alfred had already told them about all the sherm we smoked that night, so I did not feel it necessary to go over <sup>all</sup> the details of our drug use that night.

T.S. 9. After my arrest, I learned that Tookie was also being charged for some murders that happened at a motel. I was in a state of disbelief. Crime, violence, drugs -- this was just not in Tookie. It was not who he was. I knew it had to be the drugs. The sherm had him crazed. Something made Tookie snap to even get involved in drugs -- maybe it was the pressure of <sup>keeping</sup> ~~his~~ <sup>his image up</sup> ~~his image up~~. I had been a regular PCP user since about

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1974, gradually becoming a heavier user as time went on. By the time I was arrested, I developed a habit of about 6 or 7 sherman sticks a day. For Tookie, who <sup>T.S.</sup> may have been a pretty recent user of PCP, to smoke as many as he did in the span of a few hours was crazy -- that stuff must have really fried him.

T.S. 10. Although Tookie has always been an awesome and intimidating presence for me, I was not fearful of him based on any known or reputed history of violence or intimidation. In all the years I have known Tookie, I have never known him to get involved in any violent or gang related activity, or even heard rumors of such involvement. He was way above all that -- it just wasn't his thing.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 29th day of January, 1994.

  
Tony Sims